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FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2569
INFO RUEHDE/AMCONSUL DUBAI 8307
RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DC
RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 000576

SENSITIVE SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA/ARP (MASILKO) AND EEB/TPP/IPE (TMCGOWAN) DEPT PASS TO USTR (JCHOE-GROVES, JBUNTIN, MMOWREY)

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: ECON KIPR PREL ETRD AE

SUBJECT: UAE CONSIDERS COLLECTING SOCIETY FOR RECORDED MUSIC

REFS: A) ABU DHABI 441

B) STATE 42660

(SBU) On June 9, EconOff and EconAssistant met with Fawzi Al Jaberi, Deputy Director of Intellectual Works Office at the Ministry of Economy (MoE), to follow up on reftels' Special 301 demarche. EconOff urged the MoE to establish a collecting society for recorded music and to promote better IPR enforcement in free trade zones. Al Jaberi said that establishing a collecting society is one of the MoE's priorities, but requires good preparation given the lack of UAE and GCC expertise. He said the MoE is planning to conduct a workshop to promote public awareness about collecting societies to pave the way for future implementation. The MoE will also raise this issue in upcoming meetings with GCC and Arab League officials. Al Jaberi told EconOff that he was in contact with resident legal experts including lawyers and academicians for assistance, and MoE may send officials to France to see the French experience with collecting societies. OLSON